General Assembly

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.69 and Add.1, and A/55/L.70)*]

55/179. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed on 26 May 1993,[1] as well as its resolutions on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the principles embodied in the Helsinki Final Act and in the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[2]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as arms control and disarmament,

Recalling the Charter for European Security adopted at the Summit in Istanbul in November 1999, which reaffirms the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

Recalling also the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, as well as between that organization and the Asian Partners for Cooperation, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which have been further enhanced in 2000,

[1] A/48/185, annex II, appendix.
[2] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex.

Underlining the continued importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including at the level of activities in the field;

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the participation of the Deputy Secretary-General in the meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was held in Vienna in November 2000, and the participation of high-level United Nations representatives in meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

4. *Encourages* further efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to foster security and stability in its region through early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as through continued promotion of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Also encourages* the intention of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to create an environment in which the dignity, well-being, safety and human rights of all people are ensured;

6. *Welcomes* the documents of the meeting of the Ministerial Council held in Vienna on enhancing the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to combat trafficking in human beings and on the illicit trafficking in and the destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons;

7. *Also welcomes* the continued close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

8. *Further welcomes* the admission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia into the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on 10 November 2000 after the vivid demonstration of the commitment of the people of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to democracy, and commends the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its commitment to the principles and standards of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and its readiness to cooperate with European institutions and with its neighbours offering new perspectives for peace and prosperity in South-Eastern Europe;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to assist the Yugoslav people to this end and the preparedness of the Yugoslav Government to have a presence of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the country, and welcomes the steps undertaken by the Government to ensure an early amnesty for all political prisoners;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of

[3] A/55/98.

10 June 1999, including the establishment, pursuant to that resolution, of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission in Kosovo as an essential part of the broader United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, responsible for institution-building, including the training of a new Kosovo police service, judicial personnel and civil administrators, the development of free media, democratization and governance, the organization and supervision of elections and the monitoring, protection and promotion of human rights, in cooperation with, inter alia, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and stresses the commitment of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the full implementation of resolution 1244 (1999);

11. *Commends* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of the local elections in Kosovo in view of the consolidation of stability and prosperity in Kosovo on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, pending a final settlement in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999);

12. *Welcomes* the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, initialled in Dayton, United States of America, on 21 November 1995,[4] in particular in the fields of human rights and judicial and police reform, and commends the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

13. *Underlines* the importance of regional cooperation as a means of fostering good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, welcomes the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as an important long-term and comprehensive initiative to promote good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, and also welcomes the commitment of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to contribute further to the goals of the Stability Pact;

14. *Welcomes* the work of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in assisting in the implementation of articles II and IV of annex 1-B to the General Framework Agreement and its contribution to the creation of a framework for peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe;

15. *Fully supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

16. *Welcomes*, in view of lack of progress in the peace process of the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict, the intention of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to intensify their efforts in fulfilling their mandates and to further an atmosphere of mutual trust between all parties to the conflict, also

[4] See A/50/790-S/1995/999.

welcomes the direct dialogue between the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, and encourages them to continue their efforts in working with the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group to expedite agreements that would serve as a basis for the resumption of full-scale negotiations within the Group;

17. *Stresses* the importance of all parties doing their utmost to ensure that the ceasefire along the line of contact is strictly observed until a comprehensive agreement resolving the conflict is signed, and commends the efforts taken by the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group since the Istanbul Summit to diminish tensions in the region and to prepare, in coordination with the United Nations and other international agencies, support measures that would facilitate the implementation of a political settlement;

18. *Welcomes* efforts undertaken in 2000 to strengthen cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations in Georgia, and with regard to Abkhazia, Georgia, welcomes the completion of the joint assessment mission to the Gali district in November 2000 to evaluate conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their former places of permanent residence;

19. *Fully supports* the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at achieving a settlement of the problems in the Transdniestrian region of the Republic of Moldova, recalls the commitment by the Russian Federation to complete the withdrawal of the Russian forces from the territory of the Republic of Moldova by the end of 2002, as agreed at the Istanbul Summit, and welcomes the willingness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe together with the Republic of Moldova to facilitate this process, within their respective abilities, by the agreed deadline;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of enhanced dialogue between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Central Asian participating States and the readiness of that organization to contribute, inter alia, together with the United Nations, to strengthening cooperation in the region, as well as the commitment of that organization to promote democratic institutions and assist the Central Asian countries in addressing security issues, the problem of organized crime and economic and environmental concerns, and takes note in this respect of the international conference on enhancing security and stability in Central Asia, held in Tashkent on 19 and 20 October 2000, which was organized jointly by the Chair of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention with the assistance of the Government of Uzbekistan;

21. *Also welcomes* the in-depth discussions on cooperation of the United Nations, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe with regard to interaction and complementarity of rapid response mechanisms at the meeting of the Ministerial Council held in Vienna, and requests the Secretary-General to continue exploring with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

22. *Further welcomes* the fact that Thailand has become a new Partner for Cooperation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

86th plenary meeting
19 December 2000